

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Revocation)	ORDER OF
)	
or Suspension of the Educator)	SUMMARY SUSPENSION
)	
Certificate of Kimberly M. Alexander,)	
)	
Certificate 145954)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on September 13, 2006. In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2004), the State Department of Education (Department) requested that the State Board summarily suspend the educator certificate of Kimberly M. Alexander, certificate 145954, as a result of her arrest on September 7, 2006, on the charge of committing a lewd act on a minor. The Department has reason to believe that, due to the nature of the allegations of misconduct against Ms. Alexander, she may pose a threat to the health, safety, or welfare of students that may be under her instruction. After considering the evidence presented by the Department, the State Board voted to summarily suspend Ms. Alexander's certificate until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise resolved. The Department is directed to serve notice on Ms. Alexander of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of her educator certificate.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Alexander holds a valid professional certificate and has over nineteen years of teaching experience. Ms. Alexander currently is employed as a teacher at Bradley Elementary School in Richland County School District One. On September 7, 2006, Ms. Alexander was arrested and charged with lewd act on a child under the age of sixteen, after being observed by

a Columbia City Police officer engaging in inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature in a parked car with a young male.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

“The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct, immorality, crime against the law of this State or the United States and evident unfitness for position for which employed. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (1992). In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2004), “If the agency finds that public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, and incorporates a finding to that effect in its order, summary suspension of a license may be ordered pending proceedings for revocation or other action.” The State Board finds that there is reason to believe that Ms. Alexander may pose a threat to the welfare of students that may be under her instruction. Accordingly, the State Board summarily suspends Ms. Alexander’s educator certificate until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise resolved.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Joe Isaac
Joe Isaac
Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
September 13, 2006